

**ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME
DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES
NEWS RELEASE**



*Cora Campbell, Commissioner
Jeff Regnart, Director*



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P.O. Box 1148
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Date Issued: 8/6/2012
Time: 12:00 p.m.

KOTZEBUE COMMERCIAL SALMON FISHING OPENING

Commercial salmon fishing will be open for 4 hours from the hours of 6 p.m. Monday, August 6 until 10 p.m. Monday, August 6.

Fishermen are reminded to check with Great Pacific if the buyer needs to shorten the hours they will buy fish because of limited capacity or airline schedules.

During last night's 4 hour fishing period 31 permit holders caught 8,389 chum salmon. Catches although below average for this fishing period were likely affected by weather that also limited the number of permit holders fishing.

Chum salmon catches at the department test fish project on the Kobuk River at Kiana have skyrocketed the last few days with yesterday's catch being the 10th best in the 20-year project history. Cumulative catches at the test fish project rank 7th highest and the cumulative ranking is expected to move higher in the next several days.

Continuing with short duration openings should not jeopardize escapement and allow for subsistence fishing opportunity.

If you have any questions concerning the fishery you can call the Kotzebue office at 442-3420, or the Commercial Fisheries office in Nome at 1-800-560-2271 or the buyer at 442-4192.